

Rubric Template

Rubric Topic: Ethics – Knowledge of Philosophy/Critical Thinking

	Capstone 1	Milestones 2	Milestones 3	Benchmark 4
Student will distinguish the major ethical theories, subjectivism, egoism, utilitarianism, deontology, virtue theory	Effectively defines the relevant ethical theory in a paper showing understanding of distinctions, and contrasts them carefully	Defines the relevant theories correctly. Paper demonstrates understanding of relevant theories.	Defines the ethical theories incompletely (parts missing, too broad or narrow). Paper partially demonstrates acquaintance with appropriate area.	Has difficulty defining the various ethical theories. Confuses areas covered by one or more divisions.
Analyze the chosen ethical theory effectively, showing a command of the benefits and weaknesses of the ethical theory.	Paper shows keen analysis of content of particular theories and contrasts them with others. Effectively applies this theory to contemporary issues.	Paper shows analysis of positions of relevant theory and distinguishes from others. Applies their historical importance by illustrating relevance today.	Paper shows some analysis of the relevant, and/or partial illustration of their relevance today.	Paper does not identify the relevant theory and/or doesn't illustrate their importance today.
Assess the strengths and weaknesses of positions and methods, subjectivism or relativism, egoism or altruism, that arose in response to principal philosophical questions.	Paper successfully identifies the relevant weaknesses and strengths of a philosophical position and provides appropriate arguments as support of the position.	Paper identifies the strengths and weaknesses of a philosophical position, but does not develop arguments in support of this assessment.	Paper recognizes some of the strengths or weaknesses of a philosophical position, but confuses some positions.	Paper mistakenly identifies the strengths or weaknesses of a philosophical position.
Communication: Produce clear and well organized paper that responds appropriately to	All the writing in the paper is grammatically correct, clear of spelling errors, and shows a	All the writing in the paper is grammatically correct and clear of spelling errors. Key terms are	A few sentences are incomplete or ungrammatical. Paper mistakes the meaning of some key terms. The	Many sentences are incomplete or ungrammatical. Paper does not recognize the precise meaning of

<p>an assignment using standard American English. Employ basic philosophical vocabulary.</p>	<p>command of the philosophical language. Key terms are used appropriate and well-defined. Information is accurate.</p>	<p>correctly used and well-defined. Information regarding philosophers and philosophical positions is accurate. There are no rhetorical questions or spelling errors.</p>	<p>explanation of some key terms is inaccurate. Information regarding philosophers and philosophical positions is accurate for the most part. Paper has some spelling and grammatical errors.</p>	<p>key terms. Some key information associated with philosophers or philosophical positions is inaccurate.</p>
<p>Critical Thinking: Demonstrate creativity (thinking and acting in new, different, and imaginative ways).</p>	<p>Paper makes imaginative and accurate connection between ideas, synthesizing ideas of philosophers into a coherent whole, and provides examples to highlight clear understanding.</p>	<p>Paper draws out connections between different ideas into a coherent whole. Connections made are largely accurate. Application of connection in examples may be inadequate.</p>	<p>Paper shows some evidence of the interconnectedness of the ideas, but fails to make some important connections.</p>	<p>Paper does not show evidence of interconnectedness of ideas or understanding of major ideas</p>